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Abstract

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A detailed analysis is made of the existing programmes for the utilization of the 1 MW swimming pool type Portuguese Research Reactor and of the means presently available or required to implement those programmes.

The advantages of promoting cooperation with universities and national or foreign research centers are discussed.

Incidentally, the most relevant features of the reactor, which is similar to other well known reactors of the same type, are described briefly. A short summary analysis of the facility is made having in mind the experimental work which is in progress or planned. A summary of the results obtained during the calibration of the reactor is also presented.

The contribution of the reactor to the development of the "Laboratório de Física e Engenharia Nucleares" (Portuguese Nuclear Research Center) and to scientific development in Portugal is referred to. On the other hand difficulties prevailing in this field and calling for a determined effort in promoting scientific and technological research are examined. The need for systematic training of personnel for the future nuclear activities and the utilization of this research reactor by other institutions are also considered.